

# Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

## Co-operative Research Programme (CRP): Sustainable Agricultural and Food Systems

**András Székács** (Agro-Environmental Research Centre –  
Hungarian University of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Hungary)  
OECD CRP, Scientific Advisory Body





# Co-operative Research Programme

Biological Resource Management for Sustainable  
Agriculture Systems



## Sustainable Agricultural and Food Systems

... to strengthen scientific knowledge and provide **relevant scientific information** and advice that will inform future **policy decisions** related to the **sustainable use of natural resources** in the areas of agriculture, food, fisheries and forests.

# History and Purpose

- Co-operative Research Programme was **established in 1979** to:
  - Provide a sound scientific knowledge base to agricultural policy-making
  - Contribute to an informed public debate on current and emerging agri-food issues
  - Promote scientific understanding and standards between major regions of OECD
- Today the CRP objectives are anchored in BOTH policy and science in the fields of food, agriculture, forestry and fisheries.
- An „opt-in” program for OECD member countries

It is not part of the OECD ‘core’ program, but countries have to contribute annually with an extra financial budget to take part in CRP.

# Participating Countries

## 28 of the 36 OECD Members



Australia



Austria



Belgium



Canada



Chile



Czech Republic



Denmark



Estonia



Finland



France



Germany



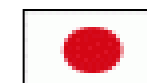
Hungary



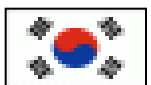
Ireland



Italy



Japan



Korea



Latvia



Lithuania



Netherlands



New Zealand



Norway



Slovakia



Spain



Sweden



Switzerland



United Kingdom



United States



Israel

Newest: Israel (!), Lithuania, Latvia, France, Estonia    Left: Poland



# Synergies with other OECD Bodies

Served by the Division Agro-food Trade and Markets

- Committee for Agriculture
  - Working Party on Agricultural Policies and Markets
  - Joint Working Party on Agriculture and the Environment
  - Global Forum on Agriculture
  - Joint Working Party on Agriculture and Trade
  - OECD Codes and Schemes
- Committee for Fisheries
- Other bodies
  - Working Group on the Harmonisation of Regulatory Oversight in Biotechnology
  - Task Force for the Safety of Novel Food and Feeds
  - Working Group on Pesticides
  - Working Party on Biodiversity, Water and Ecosystems
  - Global Forum on Biotechnology (Environment Policy Committee)
  - Working Party on Biotechnology (Directorate for Science, Technology and Industry)

# Program Structure 2020-2030

Commenced a 5-year mandate 2021-2025

Organised into three themes:

- Theme 1: **Managing Natural Capital**
- Theme 2: **Strengthening Resilience in the Face of Multiple Risks in a Connected World**
- Theme 3: **Transformational Technologies and Innovation**

Previous 5-year mandates:

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 2016-2020 | Managing Natural Capital for the Future; Managing Risks in a Connected World; Transformational Technologies and Innovation |
| 2011-2015 | The Natural Resources Challenge; Sustainability in Practice; The Food Chain  |



# Program Activities

- Two types of activities:
  - travelling research fellowships
  - conference and workshop sponsorship

# Program management

## Program is managed by a:

- **Scientific Advisory Body**

- comprised of six scientists from around the world
- evaluates proposals, ensures science quality,
- makes recommendations on fellowships and workshops for support
- 2 members oversee each Theme

- **Governing Body**

- composed of a representative from each participating country,
- defines the general orientation and strategic direction
- gives final approval on investments based on SAB recommendations

- **Network of National Correspondents**

- contacts/ advisors in each participating country



# Conferences....

- International conferences, workshops, symposia, congresses, etc.
- Invited speakers from 27 OECD CRP members (airfares/subsistence)
- To be held in a CRP member country
- On an issue related to one (or more) of the CRP Research Themes
- Of relevance to the OECD's policy priorities
- Current and future research, scientific developments and opportunities
- Informing policy makers, industry and academia (organised by, for example, research institutions, international associations)
- Applications for 2023 Fellowships and Conferences/Workshops closed:

**September 10, 2022**

...but call soon to be announced for 2024!

## 2022 OECD Conferences (4)

| Conference   | Theme   | Date, Venue       |
|--|---------|-------------------|
| Current and future challenges of viral genomics in animal health                                 | 2       | July, UK          |
| Towards net zero emissions without compromising agricultural sustainability: What is achievable? | 1, 2, 3 | August, Ireland   |
| Innovating microbial pesticide testing   | 2, 3    | September, France |
| Peatlands for climate change mitigation in agriculture   | 1       | October, Denmark  |

**Theme 1: 2, Theme 2: 3; Theme 3: 2**

## 2021 OECD Conferences (8)

| Conference   | Theme   | Date, Venue        |
|--|---------|--------------------|
| Enhancing food system resilience   | 2       | December-April, UK |
| Forecasting and managing multi-risks in Mediterranean, temperate and boreal forests          | 1, 2, 3 | July, France       |
| Overcoming the barriers to adoption of microbial herbicides                                  | 2, 3    | September, Italy   |
| From barcodes to bushels; Bridging the gap between gene banks and crop improvement           | 3       | October, Germany   |
| International workshop on innovative hydrothermal systems to valorize agricultural residuals | 1, 2    | November, Korea    |
| Assessing the state of global plant health in natural and cultivated ecosystems              | 1, 2    | October, France    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Conf.on farmer-centric on-farm experimentation                               | 3       | October, France    |
| Agriculture as an actor of social inclusion  | 2       | October, Slovakia  |

**Theme 1: 3; Theme 2: 6; Theme 3: 4**

\* Only three took place – as hybrid events

## 2020 OECD Conferences (8)

| Conference   | Theme   | Date, Venue           |
|--|---------|-----------------------|
| Developing roadmaps for sustainable nitrogen management  | 1, 2, 3 | May, France           |
| Development of standard research methodologies for the mass rearing of insects fed waste organic residues for the production of novel animal feeds | 1, 2, 3 | June, Canada          |
| New futures for Satoyama and SEPLs   | 2, 3    | September, UK         |
| Food security: managing risks in a connected world   | 3       | September, Chile      |
| Adaptations to climate change in the food system   | 1, 2    | June, Japan           |
| Ecosystem-based fisheries management   | 1, 2    | October, Australia    |
| Water use assessment of livestock production   | 3       | October, Germany      |
| Grazing in future multi-scapes   | 2       | May-July, New Zealand |

**Theme 1: 4; Theme 2: 6; Theme 3: 5**

\* Only one took place – as a virtual event



## 2019 OECD Conferences (8)

| Conference  | Theme   | Date, Venue     |
|---|---------|-----------------|
| Genetic biocontrol for invasive species   | 2       | March, Spain    |
| OECD Conference on RNAi based pesticides  | 1, 2, 3 | April, France   |
| Climate change, reactive nitrogen, food security and sustainable agriculture                                | 1       | April, Germany  |
| 4th International workshop on <i>Streptococcus suis</i>   | 2       | June, Canada    |
| Rapid evolution and the global spread of invasive species   | 2       | June, UK        |
| Integrating the values of nature into economic planning   | 1       | September, UK   |
| Intellectual property and access to Crispr-Cas gene editing technologies for innovation in crop agriculture | 3       | October, USA    |
| Workshop on challenges for agroecology development *  | 1       | November, Chile |

**Theme 1: 4; Theme 2: 4; Theme 3: 2**

\* Unfortunately cancelled – due to unstable situation



## 2018 OECD Conferences (8)

| Conference  | Theme   | Date, Venue         |
|---|---------|---------------------|
| TERRAenVISION: Science for Society  | 1       | January, Spain      |
| Circular economy for agri-food resource management  | 3       | June, Korea         |
| OECD Conference on genome editing: applications in agriculture  | 1, 2, 3 | June, France        |
| CRISPRing – a new begin for genetic improvement of plants and microbes  | 3       | September, Hungary  |
| Natural products in pest management: Innovative approaches for increasing their use                                 | 1       | September, Italy    |
| Preparing Europe for invasion by the beetles emerald ash borer and bronze birch borer, two major tree-killing pests | 1, 2    | October, Austria    |
| Risk valuation and risk management tools in agri-food sector  | 2       | October, Slovakia   |
| Making science useful to agriculture  | 3       | November, Australia |

**Theme 1: 4; Theme 2: 3; Theme 3: 4**

## 2017 OECD Conferences (8)

| Conference  | Theme   | Date, Venue            |
|---|---------|------------------------|
| Digital transformation of animal health monitoring  | 2, 3    | March, UK              |
| International symposium on food credence attributes: How can we design policies to meet consumer demand           | 3       | May, Japan             |
| Global Goals - new approaches to knowledge generation: challenges and solutions from local to global scales       | 1       | August, Sweden         |
| Symposium on systems analysis of forest resources   | 1, 2, 3 | August, USA            |
| Application of high throughput genotyping technologies for forest tree species identification and timber tracking | 1       | September, Spain       |
| Water Quality: A new challenge for global scale modelling   | 1, 2    | September, Netherlands |
| Future IPM 3.0: towards a sustainable agriculture   | 1, 2    | October, Italy         |
| 1st Asian-Australasian Conference on precision pasture and livestock farming                                      | 3       | October, New Zealand   |

**Theme 1: 5; Theme 2: 4; Theme 3: 4**



## 2016 OECD Conferences (8)

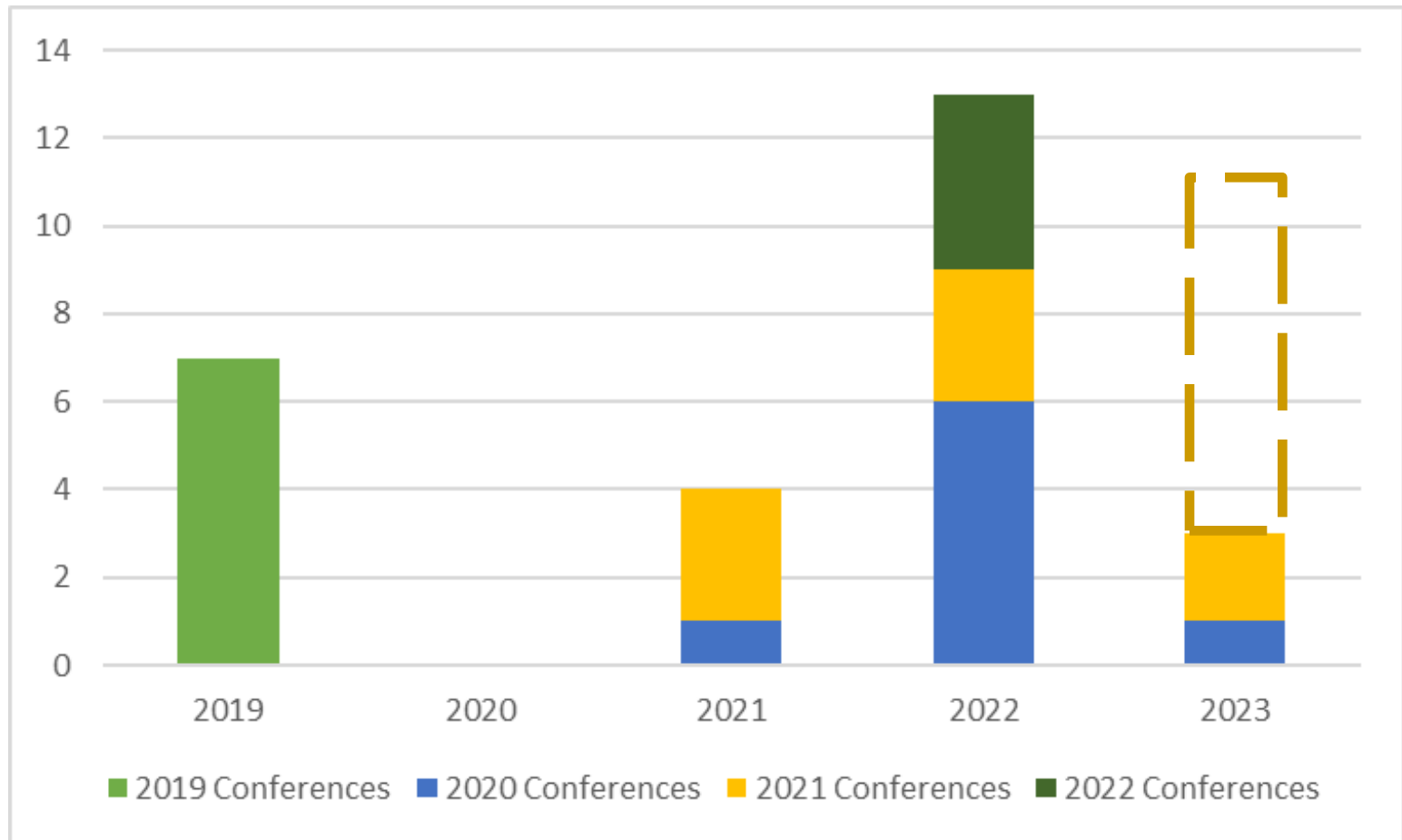
| Conference  | Theme   | Date, Venue     |
|---|---------|-----------------|
| Updated diagnosis and epidemiology of animal prion diseases for food safety and security  | 3       | May, Japan      |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> World Fisheries Congress: Session on genomics for improved fisheries management and conservation: have the promises been fulfilled? | 1, 2, 3 | May, Korea      |
| Vulnerability of agricultural production networks and global food value chains due to natural disasters   | 1       | June, Austria   |
| Biological invasions in forests   | 1       | July, USA       |
| Genome editing and the future of farming  | 3       | September, UK   |
| Virtual water in agricultural products: quantification, limitations and trade policy  | 1       | September, USA  |
| Environmental release of engineered pests: building an international governance framework   | 2       | October, USA    |
| International Symposium on Food Safety (ISFS): New tools to detect and prevent foodborne outbreaks from farm to fork                                | 3       | December, Chile |

**Theme 1: 4; Theme 2: 2; Theme 3: 4**

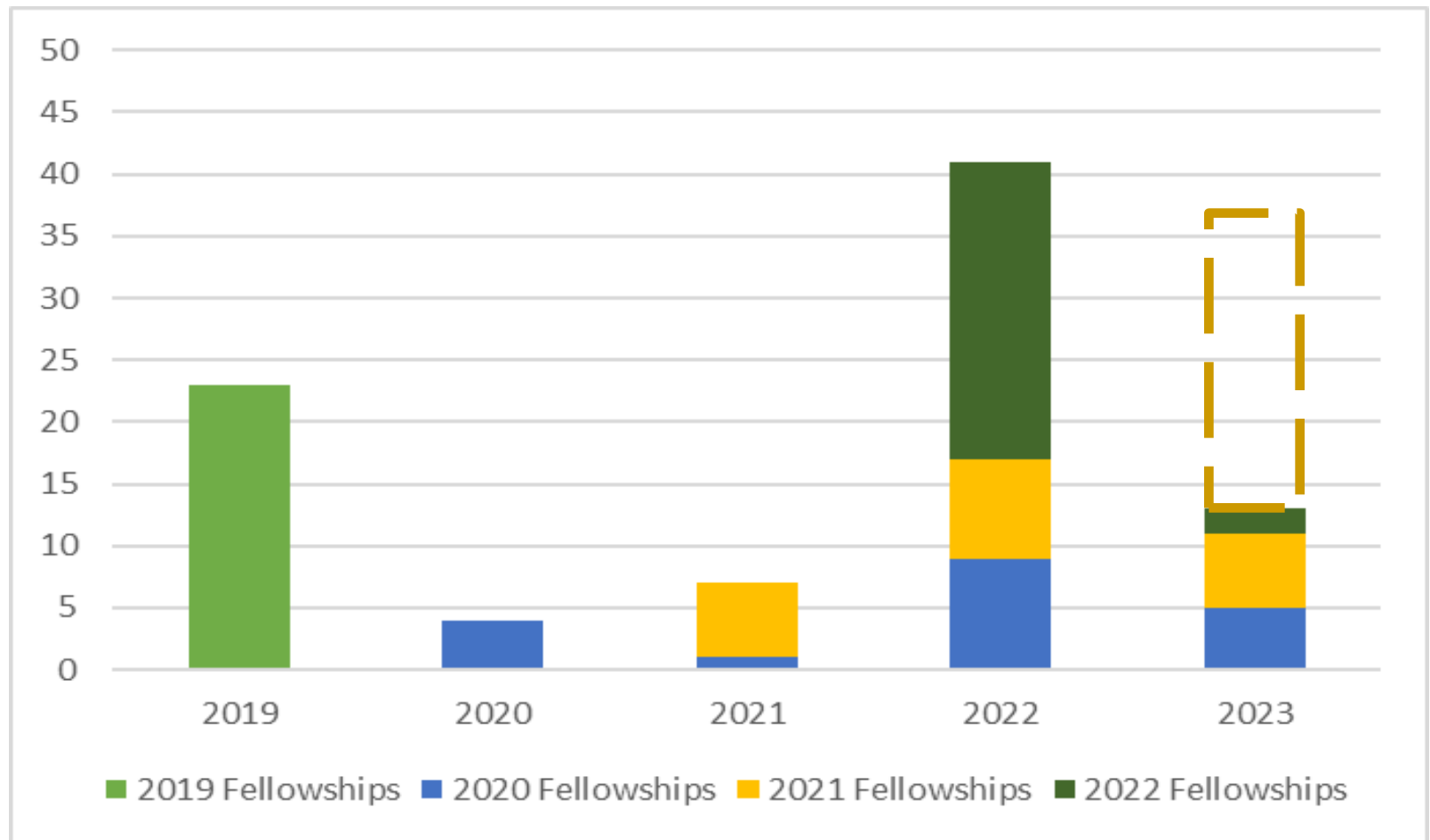




# Effect of COVID-19 on CRP sponsored events



# Effect of COVID-19 on CRP fellowship awards

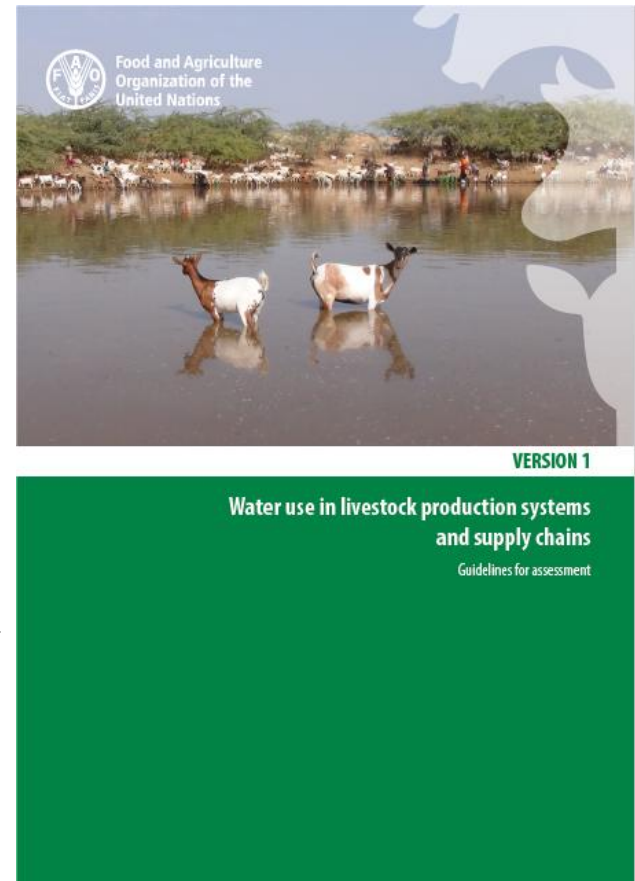


# Applications for funding in 2023

- 20 Conference applications  
up from 6 in 2022
- 47 Fellowship applications  
down from 54 in 2022

# Why was this meeting supported?

- Clearly addresses links of **science and policy** in an area of wide importance - highly relevant to OECD interests
- Well prepared **proposal** which hits a priority area, included a defined program, an impressive speaker list which draws on expertise across **multiple CRP participant countries**.
- Clearly defined as an **OECD event**.
- **Outcomes** will be captured in policy relevant format in a report to OECD and through publication of a proceedings
- Interaction with Theme Coordinator and secretariat in finalising proposal.



# Fellowships....

- Travel between 28 OECD CRP members (airfares/living expenses)
- Individual researchers
  - To undertake their own research project
  - In collaboration with a host researchers and laboratory
  - In a different CRP member country
- To strengthen the international exchange of ideas and increasing international mobility and co-operation
- To foster long term collaboration between the institute of the Fellow and of the Host
- Requires a PhD or equivalent and permanent position (*not a Postdoc*) (after minimum of 4 years' post-doc experience)
- No age limit, but seek a balance of early career and senior Fellows
- Duration; 6-26 weeks
- Applications for 2024 Fellowships and Conferences/Workshops soon to open: <https://www.oecd.org/agriculture/crp/applications>

# Outputs and Outcomes are important!

## Workshops, Conferences

- **Publication of proceedings** of sponsored workshops or conferences – special journal editions, books
- **Policy document** from each conference outlining relevance to OECD's Policy Agenda
- Evaluation **Questionnaires** on each Conference

## Fellowships

- **Report** on substantive outputs as a result of the Fellowships.
- **Reports and Publications** received from Fellows after end of Fellowships
- Evaluation **Questionnaires** on each Fellowship

# For Further Information

[www.oecd.org/agriculture/crp](http://www.oecd.org/agriculture/crp)

## Applications must relate to the Selection Criteria:

- Relevance (CRP and Policy)
  - Excellence
- Multi-disciplinary
  - Feasibility
- Dissemination
  - Impact

# CRP Countries represented in this Workshop



Chile



Germany



Hungary



Italy



New Zealand



Spain

and world organizations

Your Evaluation **Questionnaires** are important to the future of the CRP.

**Thank you!**